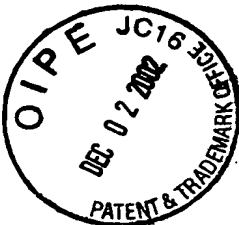


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on Nov. 26, 2002

Donna M. Leidenheimer
Name
Donna M. Leidenheimer
Signature



P&G Case 6567CR

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of :
Gary D LaVon, et al. : Confirmation No. 4986
Serial No. 09/911,108 : Group Art Unit 3738
Filed July 23, 2001 : Examiner: J.A. Webb

For **ABSORBENT ARTICLE COMPRISING A MATERIAL HAVING A HIGH VERTICAL WICKING CAPACITY**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, record is being made below in a Form PTO/SB08 of documents which the Patent Office may wish to consider in connection with examination of the above-identified patent application. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case. As provided in §1.97(g), no representation is made or intended that a thorough art search was made. As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(h), this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission of any kind, and specifically is not an admission that the documents listed on attached form PTO/SB08 are, or are considered to be, material to the patentability of the above-identified patent application, as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

1. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1) - **U.S. Direct (within 3-months of filing a regular application or converted provisional)**

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(1), is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

2. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2) - **Via PCT (within 3 mo. of Nat'l Stage Entry)**

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(2), is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due.

3. ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3) - (>3 mo. after filing direct or nat'l stage entry, but before 1st O.A.)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3). Applicants have not received an Office Action on the merits in the present application. Therefore, no fee is believed to be due. However, in the event that this paper is crossing in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits, authorization is hereby given to charge the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) and 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed to facilitate charging of the fee, if necessary.

THE FOLLOWING IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO (2) OR (3) MARKED WITH AN (X) ABOVE.

(a) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that both a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited therein are present in the national stage file. In accordance with MPEP §1893.03(g), it is respectfully requested that the Examiner note the consideration of these references in the first Office Action via the PTO-892 form.

(b) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 indicates that a copy of the International Search Report is present in the national stage file. Copies of the references cited in that report are enclosed.

(c) ☐ The Notification of Acceptance of this Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371 does not indicate that a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited are present in the national stage file. Copies of the International Search Report and references are attached.

4. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(4) - (before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114)

This information disclosure statement, submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4), is being filed with the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

5. ☐ Information to be Considered with CPA Filing. This information disclosure statement is being filed with a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d).

6. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c) with fee payment - (use after 1st Office Action & before Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance)

This information disclosure statement is being submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). Applicant(s) have not received a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (e.g., *Ex parte Quayle*) as of the date of this submission. Applicant(s) elect to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p). Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account Number 16-2480 in the name of The Procter & Gamble Company. A duplicate copy of this letter (or a fee transmittal form) is enclosed to facilitate the charging of the fee.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE NOTED BY THE EXAMINER:

☐ (1) Copies of the cited references were previously cited by or submitted to the USPTO in prior application Case No. ____, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. __, filed __. Applicants claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of those documents are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d).

OR

☒ (2) Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

OR

☐ (3) Copies of all said documents, except document No.'s _____, were submitted and considered in parent application U.S. Patent Application Serial No. _____, filed _____. Applicant(s) claim priority to said application under 35 U.S.C. §120. Accordingly, copies of document No.'s _____ are not provided with this Statement, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). Copies of document No.'s _____ are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited documents be carefully considered by the Examiner and made of record in this case.

☐ (4) Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c), a concise explanation of the relevance of each cited reference that is not in the English language is provided.

☐ (5) Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to consider and make of record the copending applications listed on the attached page.



Additional information is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

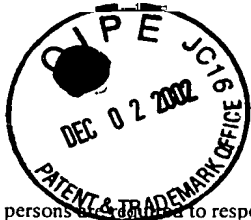
By Michael P. Hayden
Michael P. Hayden
Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 48,433
(513) 626-5800

Date: November 26, 2002

Customer No. 27752

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	US-D 298,566	11-15-1988	Runeman	
	2	US-833,849	10-23-1906	Schiff	
	3	US-1,893,745	01-10-1933	Josias	
	4	US-2,476,585	07-19-1949	Cohen	
	5	US-2,530,647	11-21-1950	Buchler	
	6	US-2,688,328	09-07-1954	Marcus	
	7	US-2,842,129	07-08-1958	Ernstorff	
	8	US-3,050,063	08-21-1962	Margraf	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	9	WO 91/10413	07-25-1991	Young, et al.		
	10	WO 91/16871	11-14-1991	Kioezm et al.		
	11	WO 95/17870	07-06-1995	Guidotti, et al.		
	12	EP 0 584 757 B1	11-19-1997	Fujioka, et al.		
	13	EP 0 585 766 B1	04-22-1998	Fujioka, et al.		
	14	GB 493,819	10-14-1938	Lewis		
	15	GB 734,994	08-10-1955	Murphy		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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SHEET 2 of 14



COMPLETE IF KNOWN

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Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

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		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)				
	16	US-3,162,196		12-22-1964	Salk	
	17	US-Re. 26,152		01-31-1967	Andren	
	18	US-3,306,293		02-28-1967	Marder, et al.	
	19	US-3,556,932		01-19-1971	Coscia, et al.	
	20	US-3,595,235		07-27-1971	Jespersen	
	21	US-3,658,064		04-25-1972	Pociluyko	
	22	US-3,661,875		05-09-1972	Sieja	
	23	US-3,771,524		11-13-1973	Ralph	
	24	US-3,848,594		11-19-1974	Buell	
	25	US-3,860,003		01-14-1975	Buell	
	26	US-3,886,941		06-03-1975	Duane, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	27	GB	1,411,087		10-22-1975	Willington		
	28	GB	2,042,342		09-24-1980	Herng-Lin		
	29	GB	2,295,321		05-29-1996	Faulks, et al.		
	30	JP	6121812		05-06-1994	Hideko		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶

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SHEET 3 of 14

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Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Number - Kind Code ²	(if known)			
	31	US-3,911,173		10-07-1975	Sprague, Jr.	
	32	US-3,926,189		12-16-1975	Taylor	
	33	US-4,019,517		04-26-1977	Glassman	
	34	US-4,022,210		05-10-1977	Glassman	
	35	US-4,062,817		12-13-1977	Westerman	
	36	US-4,072,150		02-07-1978	Glassman	
	37	US-4,076,663		02-28-1978	Masuda, et al.	
	38	US-4,081,301		03-28-1978	Buell	

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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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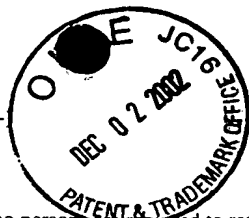
EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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SHEET 4 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

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	39	US-4,093,776	06-06-1978	Aoki, et al.	
	40	US-4,257,418	03-24-1981	Hessner	
	41	US-4,260,443	04-07-1981	Lindsay, et al.	
	42	US-4,265,245	05-05-1981	Glassman	
	43	US-4,326,302	04-27-1982	Lowe, et al.	
	44	US-4,467,012	08-21-1984	Pedersen, et al.	
	45	US-4,496,360	01-29-1985	Joffe, et al.	
	46	US-4,515,595	05-07-1985	Kievit, et al.	

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EXAMINER

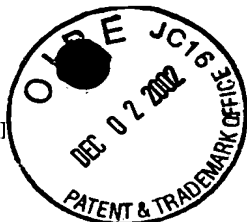
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SHEET 5 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
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		Number - Kind Code ²	(if known)			
	47	US-4,560,381		12-24-1985	Southwell	
	48	US-4,573,986		03-04-1986	Minetola, et al.	
	49	US-4,578,073		03-25-1986	Dysart, et al.	
	50	US-4,597,760		07-01-1986	Buell	
	51	US-4,597,761		07-01-1986	Buell	
	52	US-4,610,678		09-09-1986	Weisman, et al.	
	53	US-4,625,001		11-25-1986	Tsubakimoto, et al.	
	54	US-4,654,039		03-31-1987	Brandt, et al.	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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	55	US-4,666,983		05-19-1987	Tsubakimoto, et al.	
	56	US-4,695,278		09-22-1987	Lawson	
	57	US-4,710,188		12-01-1987	Runeman	
	58	US-4,715,918		12-29-1987	Lang	
	59	US-4,734,478		03-29-1988	Tsubakimoto, et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 7 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	63	US-4,808,178	02-28-1989	Aziz, et al.	
	64	US-4,816,025	03-28-1989	Foreman	
	65	US-4,822,453	04-18-1989	Dean, et al.	
	66	US-4,834,736	05-30-1989	Boland, et al.	
	67	US-4,834,737	05-30-1989	Khan	
	68	US4,834,738	05-30-1989	Kielpikowski, et al.	
	69	US-4,842,666	06-27-1989	Werenicz	
	70	US-4,851,069	07-25-1989	Packard, et al.	

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SHEET 8 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

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	71	US-4,872,871	10-10-1989	Proxmire, et al.	
	72	US-4,888,093	12-19-1989	Dean, et al.	
	73	US-4,892,598	01-09-1990	Stevens, et al.	
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	75	US-4,923,454	05-08-1990	Seymour, et al.	
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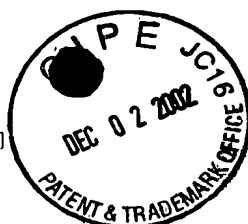
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	Application Number	09/911,108
	Confirmation Number	4986
	Filing Date	July 23, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
	Group Art Unit	3738
	Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
	Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

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	80	US-4,988,345	01-29-1991	Reising	
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	83	US-5,009,653	04-23-1991	Osborn, III	
	84	US-5,061,259	10-29-1991	Goldman, et al.	
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SHEET 10 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	87	US-5,128,082	07-07-1992	Makoui	
	88	US-5,137,537	08-11-1992	Herron, et al.	
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	92	US-5,188,624	02-23-1993	Young, Sr., et al.	
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SHEET 11 of 14

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	95	US-5,217,445	06-08-1993	Young, et al.	
	96	US-5,260,345	11-09-1993	DesMarais, et al.	
	97	US-5,268,224	12-07-1993	DesMarais, et al.	
	98	US-5,318,554	06-07-1994	Young, et al.	
	99	US-5,324,561	06-28-1994	Rezai, et al.	RECEIVED
	100	US-5,325,543	07-05-1994	Allen	
	101	US-5,358,500	10-25-1994	LaVon, et al.	DEC 6 2002
	102	US-5,387,207	02-07-1995	Dyer, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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SHEET 12 of 14

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Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
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	103	US-5,401,266	03-28-1995	Runeman, et al.	
	104	US-5,405,342	04-11-1995	Roessler, et al.	
	105	US-5,409,476	04-25-1995	Coates	
	106	US-5,458,591	10-17-1995	Roessler, et al.	
	107	US-5,476,457	12-19-1995	Roessler, et al.	DEC - 6 2002
	108	US-5,486,168	01-23-1996	Runeman, et al.	
	109	US-5,531,728	07-02-1996	Lash	ENTER R3700
	110	US-5,549,589	08-27-1996	Horney, et al.	

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SHEET 13 of 14

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Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
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		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)				
	111	US-5,550,167		08-27-1996	DesMarais	RECEIVED DEC - 6 2002 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700
	112	US-5,556,393		09-17-1996	Rönnberg	
	113	US-5,562,646		10-08-1996	Goldman, et al.	
	114	US-5,563,179		10-08-1996	Stone, et al.	
	115	US-5,599,335		02-04-1997	Goldman, et al.	
	116	US-5,613,959		03-25-1997	Roessler, et al.	
	117	US-5,636,387		06-10-1997	Lundy	
	118	US-5,650,222		07-22-1997	DesMarais, et al.	

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COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number	09/911,108
Confirmation Number	4986
Filing Date	July 23, 2001
First Named Inventor	Gary D. LaVon
Group Art Unit	3738
Examiner Name	J.A. Webb
Attorney Docket Number	6567CR

SHEET 14 of 14

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	DOCUMENT NUMBER		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)				
	119	US-5,800,416		09-01-1998	Seger, et al.	
	120	US-5,817,081		10-06-1998	LaVon, et al.	
	121	US-5,827,253		10-27-1998	Young, et al.	
	122	US-5,843,055		12-01-1998	Seger	
	123	US-5,843,065		12-01-1998	Wyant	
	124	US-5,906,602		05-25-1999	Weber, et al.	
	125	US-6,015,935		01-18-2000	LaVon, et al.	
	126	US-6,083,210		07-04-2000	Young, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
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